

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the abstract of the disclosure with the following abstract of the disclosure:

The present invention provides plant selection strategies to identify and select plants cells, tissue or entire plants which comprise a coding region of interest. The ~~plant selection strategy of the present invention generally~~ involves i) transforming the plant, ~~or portion thereof~~ with a first nucleotide sequence comprising a first regulatory region in operative association with a first gene, and an operator sequence, the first gene encoding a tag protein; ii) screening for the transformed plant; iii) introducing a second nucleotide sequence into the transformed plant, or portion thereof to produce a dual transgenic plant, the second nucleotide sequence comprising a second regulatory region, in operative association with a second gene, and a third regulatory region in operative association with a third gene, the second gene comprising a coding region of interest, the third gene encoding a repressor capable of binding to the operator sequence thereby inhibiting expression of the first gene, and; iv) selecting for the dual transgenic plant ~~by identifying plants, or portions thereof deficient in the tag protein, or an identifiable genotype or phenotype associated therewith. The first gene may be a conditionally lethal gene and the tag protein may be a conditionally lethal protein.~~